

Northern California Seasonal Closures Between Oregon Border and Near Cape Mendocino (40°, 10' N. lat.)

The following regulations apply to all state waters; including fishing from shore, boat or man-made structure

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Group												
cowcod												
Rockfish (excluding cowcod)												
lingcod												
cabezon, kelp and rock greenlings												
KEY												
	Recreational fishing is ALLOWED											
	Recreational fishing is ALLOWED at all depths until federal harvest guidelines are reached for canary or yelloweye rockfish, at which time fishing for targeted species may only be allowed in depths less than 162 feet (27 fathoms). See sections 27.82 (c) and (d).											
	Recreational fishing is PROHIBITED											

Bag limits, size limits, fillet lengths, skin requirements and gear restrictions for selected species:

The general bag limit allows an angler to take or possess no more than 20 finfish, with no more than 10 fish of any one species. Within the general bag limit, several species have reduced bag limits (see below). The rockfish bag limit is 10 in combination of all rockfish species. The cowcod bag limit has been reduced to zero; take or possession of this species is PROHIBITED. Many species have a minimum fillet length requirement and/or a skin requirement (see below). Filleting of cabezon and greenlings at sea is NOT PERMITTED. Also, rockfish and lingcod have gear restrictions placed upon their take (see below).

Species	Bag Limit	Min. Size Limit (Total Length)	Fillet Length	Skin Requirement	Gear Restrictions
Rockfish, General	10 in combination of all rockfish species	see specifics	see specifics	Entire skin attached to fillet	2 hooks and 1 line per angler while fishing for rockfish or when rockfish or lingcod are in possession
Bocaccio (<i>Sebastes paucispinis</i>)	2 per person; also included in the 10-fish aggregate rockfish bag limit.	10"	5"	Entire skin attached to fillet	2 hooks and 1 line per angler while fishing for rockfish or when rockfish or lingcod are in possession
Canary rockfish (<i>Sebastes pinniger</i>) and Yelloweye rockfish (<i>Sebastes ruberrimus</i>)	1 yelloweye per person, and no more than two per vessel; 1 canary per person. Also included in the 10-fish aggregate rockfish bag limit. Should harvest guidelines be reached for canary or yelloweye rockfish, no retention of that species will be allowed for the remainder of the calendar year	No restrictions	No restrictions	Entire skin attached to fillet	2 hooks and 1 line per angler while fishing for rockfish or when rockfish or lingcod are in possession
Cowcod (<i>Sebastes levis</i>)	Take or possession PROHIBITED				
Lingcod (<i>Ophiodon elongatus</i>)	2	24"	18"	One inch square patch of skin attached to fillet	2 hooks and 1 line per angler while fishing for lingcod or when rockfish or lingcod are in possession
Cabezon (<i>Scorpaenichthys marmoratus</i>)	10	15"	Filleting at sea PROHIBITED	Filleting at sea PROHIBITED	No restrictions
Kelp and Rock greenlings (<i>Hexagrammos decagrammus</i> and <i>H. lagocephalus</i>)	10	12"	Filleting at sea PROHIBITED	Filleting at sea PROHIBITED	No restrictions
California scorpionfish (a.k.a. sculpin) (<i>Scorpaena guttata</i>)	10	10"	5"	One inch square patch of skin attached to fillet	No restrictions
California halibut (<i>Paralichthys californicus</i>)	South of Pt. Sur - 5 North of Pt. Sur - 3	22"	South of Pt. Arena - 16.75" North of Pt. Arena - filleting at sea PROHIBITED	South of Pt. Arena - entire skin attached to fillet* North of Pt. Arena - filleting at sea PROHIBITED	No restrictions
California sheephead (<i>Semicossyphus pulcher</i>)	5	12"	No restrictions	One inch square patch of skin attached to fillet	No restrictions
Ocean whitefish (<i>Caulolatilus princeps</i>)	10	No restrictions	6.5"	One inch square patch of skin attached to fillet	No restrictions

* Please see California Sport Fishing Regulations Booklet for 2003 for additional information

Department of Fish and Game

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China rockfish,
Sebastes nebulosus



Gopher rockfish,
Sebastes carnatus



Black and Yellow rockfish,
Sebastes chrysomelas



Grass rockfish,
Sebastes rastrelliger



Kelp rockfish,
Sebastes atrovirens



Rock greenling
Hexagrammos superciliosus



Kelp greenling
Hexagrammos decagrammus



Cabezon
Scorpaenichthys marmoratus

Rockfish line drawings taken from Fish Bulletin 157,
Miller and Lea, 1972
Color by Lorraine L. Sinclair, PSMFC, 2000

2003 Sport Fishing Regulations Set of 4 Pamphlets

1. Oregon Border to Cape Mendocino
2. Cape Mendocino to Point Conception
3. Point Conception to Mexico Border and Cowcod Conservation Areas
4. Channel Island Marine Protected Areas

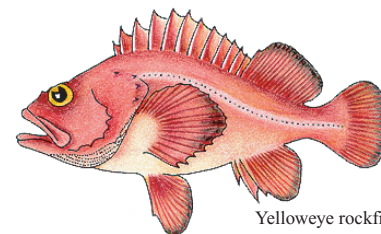
2003

Sport Fishing Regulations for Selected Species

Northern California Oregon Border to Cape Mendocino

Regulations for all rockfish, lingcod,
cabezon, greenlings and California
halibut

Effective January 1, 2003



Yelloweye rockfish,
Sebastes ruberrimus

California Department of Fish and Game Marine Region



Report Poachers and Polluters
1-888-DFG-CALTIP

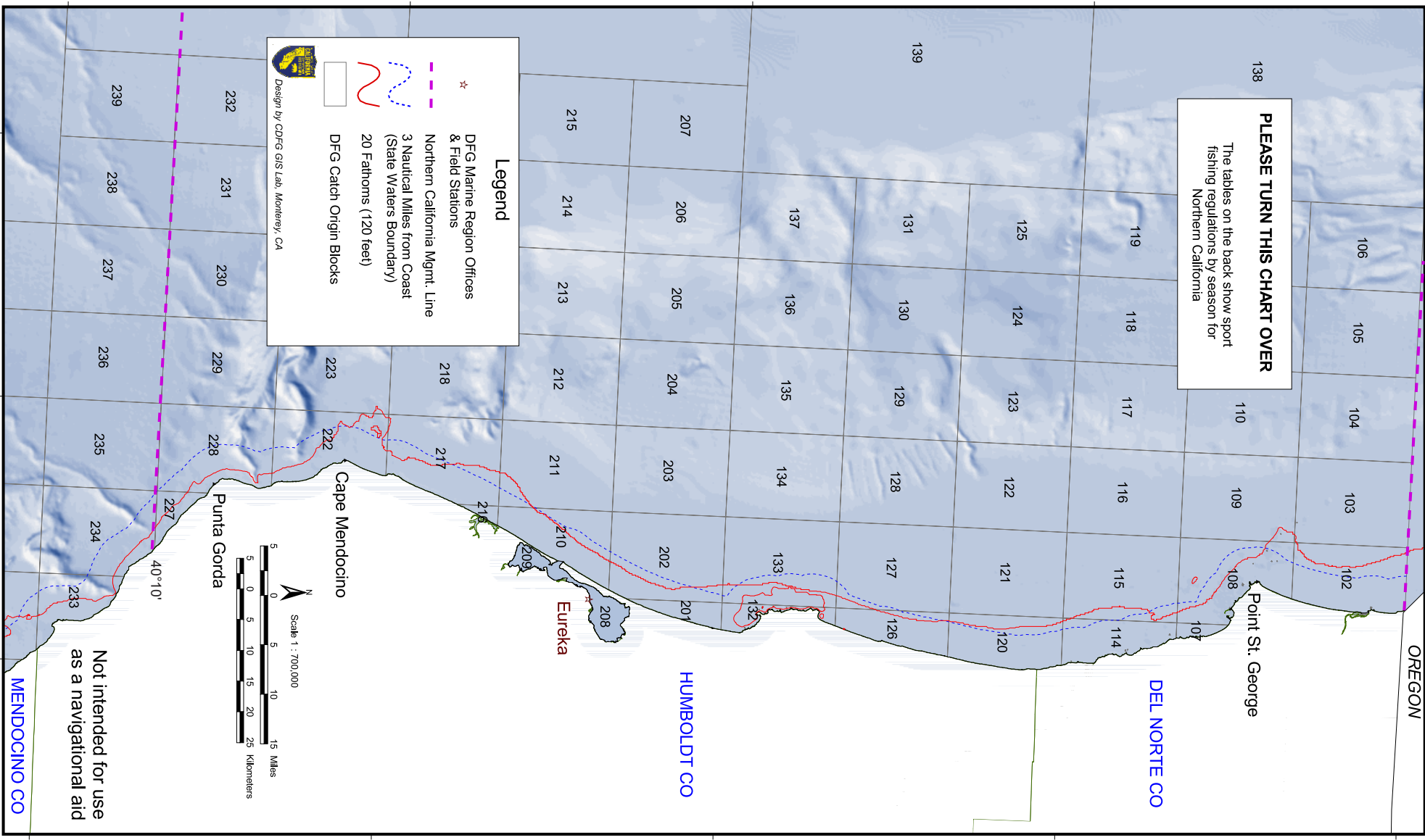
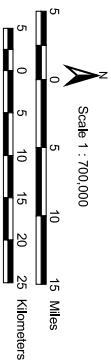
Attention All Ocean Sport Anglers: The following regulations are subject to change. Fisheries may close early if annual quota limits are reached before the end of the year. Changes will be posted on the Department of Fish and Game Marine Region Web site at: <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/>

PLEASE TURN THIS CHART OVER
The tables on the back show sport
fishing regulations by season for
Northern California

Legend

- ★ DFG Marine Region Offices & Field Stations
- Northern California Mgmt. Line
- 3 Nautical Miles from Coast (State Waters Boundary)
- 20 Fathoms (120 feet)
- DFG Catch Origin Blocks

Design by CDFG GIS Lab, Monterey, CA



Not intended for use
as a navigational aid